

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 02541 181838Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 AF-06 EB-07 /033 W

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R 181816Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

INFO USDOC WASHDC

SECSTATE WASHDC 9088

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LONDON 02541

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, CM

SUBJECT: INQUIRY ON CAMEROON GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL
REPUTATION

1. WE HAVE BEEN ASKED FOR GENERAL APPRAISAL OF CREDIT-
WORTHINESS AND GENERAL REPUTATION OF CAMEROON GOVERNMENT
IN DEALING WITH MAJOR PROJECT ENTREPRENEURS.

2. SOURCE INQUIRY IS CHARLES LICHTMAN, AMERICAN ATTOR-
NEY, NOW RESIDENT IN LONDON. WE HAVE NO OTHER INFORMA-
TION ON LICHTMAN, BUT HE CLAIMS TO BE WORKING HERE WITH
LONDON REPS OF FIRST STEAMSHIP CO., LTD. OF TAIPEI, ON
MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER DAM PROJECT IN
CAMEROON W/HI/CH WOULD OR COULD INVOLVE SUBSTANTIAL
SALES AMERICAN EQUIPMENT. HE AND PERHAPS OTHERS PLAN
TRIP THERE IN ONE TO TWO WEEKS. THEIR CONTACT APPEARS TO
BE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE.

3. LICHTMAN UNDERSTANDS THAT ALTHOUGH ABILITY COUNTRY
FINANCE PROJECT THIS SIZE WOULD DEPEND ON EXTERNAL
FINANCING, HE NONETHELESS HOPED WE COULD OFFER SOME
COMMENT ON EXPERIENCE OF FOREIGN GROUPS DEALING WITH
GOVERNMENT.

4. EMBASSY BELIEVES ANY COMMENT MADE TO LICHTMAN SHOULD
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PAGE 02 LONDON 02541 181838Z

BE VERY CIRCUMSPECT AND ALSO RECOGNIZES THAT WE MAY
FIND IT INAPPROPRIATE TO MAKE ANY REPLY, HOWEVER, GUARD-

ED. NONETHELESS, EMBASSY FELT YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED
IN APPROACH MADE HERE AND HIS PLANS FOR TRAVEL TO
YAOUNDE, AND UE WOULD WELCOME ANY INFORMATION WHICH
MIGHT BE PASSED ON TO LICHTMAN.

SPIERS

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